Adequate provisions exist in the various labour laws including the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970 to protect the interests of contract labour in terms of their wages, welfare, health and social security. Several notifications have been issued by both the Central and State Governments prohibiting employment of contract labour in perennial nature of jobs/works/processes. Regular inspections are conducted and violations are dealt with strictly in accordance with the provisions of the law, by launching prosecutions also, if necessary.

Provision of houses for beedi workers

992. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA:Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of houses constructed for beedi workers in 2004-05 and in 2005-06;

(b) the funds spent for this purpose;

(c) whether Government are considering proposals to make available funds for purchase of land for housing for beedi workers; and

(d) if so, the details of such proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU) (a): and (b) The Government has sanctioned a subsidy amount of Rs. 40.000/-per house for the construction of 15789 and 12,267 nos. of houses in 2004-05 & 2005-06 (up to January, 2006). An amount of Rs. 11.50 Crore & Rs. 47.15 Crore (up to January, 2006) was released towards subsidy.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Schemes for development of rural areas

993. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any specific schemes have been implemented for the development of rural areas of Andhra Pradesh, in particular, and other parts of the country, in general;